



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH
875 NORTH RANDOLPH STREET
SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22203-1995

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5720
Ser BD042/033
ONR FOIA 15-015
January 20, 2016

Mr. John Greenwald
8512 Newcastle Ave
Northridge, CA 91325

Dear Mr. Greenwald:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received by the Department of Navy (DON) on October 25, 2014. Your request was forwarded to the Officer of Naval Research (ONR) from the Department of Navy on December 11, 2014. You requested records related to a mock biological attack staffed by the U.S. Army in San Francisco in which the army secretly sprayed Serratia and other agents thought to be harmless using a United State Naval vessel. A copy of your request is included with this letter.

ONR's records are maintained in accordance with the Department of the Navy Records Management Program Manual (SECNAV M-5210.01), the Department of the Navy Standard Subject Identification Code Manual (SECNAV M-5201.2), and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) guidelines. Not all records are permanent and some records may have been destroyed based on established disposition schedules. ONR does not maintain a central records room or consolidated records database.

FOIA requests received by ONR are forwarded to the organization within ONR having cognizance over the subject matter of the request and a search is conducted of unclassified and classified records to identify responsive records. ONR conducted a search within our Warfighter Performance S&T Department. ONR's Records Manager also reviewed SF-135s, Records Transmittal and Receipt, for accession year 1950 and ONR's contract and grant awards historical index log. No responsive records were found.

Because you received a "no records" response, you may appeal this determination to:

Office of the General Counsel
Department of the Navy
ATTN: FOIA/PA Appeals Office
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 5A532
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Please include a copy of your original request, a copy of this letter, your supporting rationale on why the appeal should be granted, and any other information you would like considered in adjudicating your appeal. The appeal must be postmarked no later than sixty (60) calendar days from the date on this letter.

We have not assessed you any fees for this request. If you have questions, please address them to Mr. Jason Towns at (703) 696-5361 or ONRFOIA@navy.mil. Please reference ONR FOIA 15-015 in any correspondence discussing this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Thompson".

Kathy Thompson
FOIA Officer

Attachments:
As stated

Request Details**Status :** *Assignment Determination* **Due Date :** 11/25/2014**308**

Submitted

Evaluation

Assignment

Processing

Tracking Number : DON-NAVY	Closed	Submitted Date :
2015-000602	10/25/2014	
Requester : Mr. John Greenewald	10/25/2014	Perfected Date :
Organization : The Black Vault	08/11/2015	Last Assigned Date :
Requester Has Account : Yes		Fee Limit : \$25.00

Submission Details

Case File

Admin Cost

Assigned Tasks

Comments (1)

Review

Request Handling

Requester Info Available to the Public :	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request Perfected : Yes
Request Track :	10/25/2014	Perfected Date :
Simple <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Appellate Authority :
Fee Category :	OGC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Acknowledgement Sent Date:
Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fee Waiver Requested: No		Unusual Circumstances ? : No
Fee Waiver Status: N/A		5 Day Notifications: <input type="checkbox"/>
Expedited Processing Requested : No		Litigation : No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expedited Processing Status : N/A		

Request Description

Short Description :

To whom it may concern,

This is a non-commercial request made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. 5 552. My FOIA requester status as a "representative of the news media." I am a freelance television producer often working on documentaries related to my FOIA requests, my work is commonly featured throughout major news organizations, and I freelance writer for news sites as well. Examples can be given, if needed.

I prefer electronic delivery of the requested material either via email to john@greenewald.com or via CD-ROM or DVD via postal mail. Please contact me should this FOIA request should incur a charge.

During Senate subcommittee hearings in 1977, it was learned that the U.S. Army had staged a mock biological attack on San Francisco, secretly spraying the city with Serratia and other agents thought to be harmless, using a United States Naval vessel.

I respectfully request a copy of all documents that pertain to this incident, which includes, but is not limited to, reports, memos, letters, photographs, videos, etc.

Thank you so much for your time, and I am very much looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.
8512 Newcastle Ave.
Northridge, Ca. 91325

Description Available to the ☒ No
Public :

Has Description Been Modified? ☐

Additional Information

Case # : 15-015

Name of Local Command : ONR

Contract/Sol.# : Limit Request To Clearly Select Limit Request To Clearly Releasable Info
Releasable Info :**Attached Supporting Files**

No supporting files have been added.

Upload Supporting Files

If you are having problems, or do not see the "Select Files" button, [switch to the basic uploader](#).

No attachments have been added.